

## Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EUR-12 NIC-01 OMB-01 IO-10 /083 W

----- 012701

R 131151Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9398

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 0371

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SU

SUBJECT: NIMEIRI MONTHLY ADDRESS TO THE NATION

REF: KHARTOUM 0350 AND 0352

BEGIN SUMMARY: ASIDE FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS MATTERS REPORTED REFTELS, PRESIDENT NIMEIRI IN HIS MONTHLY TV ADDRESS TO THE NATION FEB. 10 CONCENTRATED ON FURTHER EXPLAINING RECENT GOVT. PERSONNEL SHIFTS. (SEE KHARTOUM 0229, 0248, 0271 AND 0351.) HE DEFLECTED ALLEGATIONS THAT CHANGES MOVE SUDAN CLOSER TO ARABS OR LEFT, AND HE REASSERTED HIS OWN PRIMACY. FULL TEXT PRESUMABLY AVAILABLE IN FBIS AS ASUAL. END SUMMARY.

1. STATING THAT HE HAD PLANNED TO MAKE CHANGES IN ANY CASE AFTER MARCH 6 MEETING OF SSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE, NIMEIRI SAID PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OPPOSITION TO ABORTED NILE VALLEY SCHEME MADE EARLIER ACTION NECESSARY. HE DENIED THAT NEW LINE-UP IS EITHER PRO-ARAB OR LESS SYMPATHETIC TO CLOSE TIES WITH AFRICA, AND ASSERTED EQUALLY THAT CHANGES SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS FAVORING EAST OR WEST. THE RESHUFFLE, SAID  
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NIMEIRI, WAS AN INTERNAL AFFAIR MADE PURELY IN THE INTERESTS

OF THE SUDAN AND HERALDS NO CHANGE IN POLICY. HE REITERATED THE SUPREME AUTHORITY OF THE SSU WHILE MAKING CLEAR THAT HE, THE PRESIDENT (AND SSU CHIEF), MAKES POLICY.

2. IN APPARENT REFERENCE TO SUSPICIONS THAT GOS WAS REVERTING TO PRE-1971 LEFTIST SYMPATHIES, NIMEIRI DEFENDED APPOINTMENT OF MAJOR ZEIN AL ABDEIN MOHAMMED AHMED GADIR (A QUOTE LEADER OF MAY RESOLUTION UNQUOTE) AS MINISTER OF YOUTH, SPORTS AND SOCIAL WELFARE, ABSOLVING HIM OF BLAME FOR 1969-71 CONFISCATIONS AND SEQUESTRATIONS LAID BY NIMEIRI TO COMMUNISTS. LIKEWISE, NIMEIRI RESPONDED TO A QUOTE QUESTION UNQUOTE BY SAYING THAT ARMS RECEIVED BY SUDAN DO NOT RETAIN THE NATIONALITY OF THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, AND THAT THE SOURCE OF ARMS HAS NO IDEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS. HE ADDED: "THE SEARCH FOR NEW ARMS SOURCES REFLECTS ONLY OUR INSISTENCE ON CONFRONTING, NOT SURRENDERING."

3. COMMENT: NIMEIRI CLEARLY SENSITIVE TO WIDELY HELD NOTION THAT RESHUFFLE SPELLS A MORE PRONOUNCED ARAB ORIENTATION, AS WELL AS TO LESS FREQUENTLY HEARD ALLEGATION THAT HAPPY QUOTE SOCIALIST UNQUOTE DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN. WHILE HE ATTEMPTING MAKE CLEAR THAT SOVIET ARMS HAVE NO STRINGS ATTACHED, HE MAY ALSO HAVE INTENDED LET IT BE KNOWN THAT MOSCOW AND EASTERN EUROPE STILL WELCOME SOURCES OF NEEDED SPARE PARTS AND REPLACEMENTS. WITH RESPECT TO QUOTE SUPREME AUTHORITY UNQUOTE, NIMEIRI TAKES EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO BLUR THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE SSU AND THE PRESIDENCY, IN AN APPARENT EFFORT TO IMPRESS UPON THE PUBLIC AND HIS COLLEAGUES HIS PRIMACY OVER OTHER POWERFUL SSU HIERARCHS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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